

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 09531 221719Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 VO-05 CA-01
TRSE-00 OMB-01 INSE-00 /085 W
-----021632 221729Z /75

O 221708Z JUN 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1228
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 09531

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF, VN
SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES - FAMILY REUNION FROM SRV

REF: A. STATE 146015; B. GENEVA 8668

1. SUGGESTION CONTAINED PARA 6, REF A HAS BEEN DISCUSSED WITH HAN, WHO HAS SOME RESERVATIONS. HE STATES THAT, WHILE RECOGNIZING CLASSIC ROLE OF ICRC IN SUCH CASES, FACT REMAINS, AS HE SEES IT, THAT VIETNAMESE WOULD PREFER TO DEAL WITH UNHCR IN THIS INSTANCE. HE MENTIONED OVER A PERIOD OF TIME UNHCR IN INVOLVEMENT WITH VIETNAMESE ON SEVERAL DELICATE MATTERS, HAD ESTABLISHED ATMOSPHERE OF CONFIDENCE. FURTHER, HE SAID, WHILE ICRC ROLE AS RESPECTED INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION WAS WELL ESTABLISHED IN WEST, IT WAS, AFTER ALL, A SWISS ENTITY, WHILE UNHCR
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WAS, IN VIETNAMESE EYES, AN OFFICIAL INTERNATIONAL BODY UNDER THE UN, OF WHICH THE SRV IS A MEMBER.

2. HAN REITERATED HIS BELIEF THAT THE SRV WAS INTENT IN ITS PURPOSE OF PURSUING THIS MATTER IN AN EFFORT TO WARM UP RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES. HE GAVE HIS JUDGEMENT THAT THE SRV IS FEELING INCREASINGLY ISOLATED AS A

RESULT OF ITS CURRENT DIFFICULTIES WITH CHINA AND CAMBODIA, IT WISHES TO AVOID EXCLUSIVE DEPENDENCE ON THE USSR, AND THEREFORE IS CONSTRAINED TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BEGIN TO ESTABLISH MORE FRIENDLY TIES WITH THE UNITED STATES. (COINCIDENTALLY, THESE POINTS WERE MADE IN ALMOST THE SAME PRECISE TERMS TO THE REPORTING OFFICER EARLIER IN THE DAY BY A HIGH AND KNOWLEDGEABLE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS (ICRC) OFFICIAL). HAN SAID THAT IN THE COURSE OF TWO DINNER SESSIONS WHERE HE HAD ARRANGED TO BE SEATED NEXT TO CONSULAR AFFAIRS DIRECTOR, VU HOANG, LATTER HAD, BY REPEATED REFERENCES, LEFT NO DOUBT IN HIS MIND ON THIS SCORE.

3. HAN CONFIRMED ASSUMPTION CONTAINED PARA 4, REF A, THAT "300 CASES" WERE COMPILED BY UNHCR AS A RESULT OF COMMUNICATIONS FROM VIETNAMESE IN THE UNITED STATES SEEKING ASSISTANCE ON BEHALF OF RELATIVES IN VIETNAM.

4. HAN EXPRESSED DESIRE TO DISCUSS MANNER AND CHANNEL OF HANDLING FAMILY REUNION CASES FURTHER WITH SIEVERTS (HA) DURING LATTER'S PLANNED VISIT TO GENEVA NEXT WEEK. MISSION WILL ARRANGE CONTACT. (IN INTERIM SINCE EXCHANGE OF REFEELS, OF COURSE, CASES OF 15 AMERICAN CITIZEN CHILDREN APPEAR TO BE IN PROCESS OF RESOLUTION WITH ANNOUNCEMENT BY SENATE SUB-COMMITTEE ON REFUGEES THAT SRV HAS AGREED TO THEIR DEPARTURE FOR THE UNITED STATES.)
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